SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

61. The need for a Demonstration Farm for the Kottayam taluk.

Mr. P. M. Chacko, B. A. (Member, Kottayam taluk) said that there was an experimental farm at Kottayam thirty years ago, conducted by an association ; but it ceased to exist after working for a few years. The people of the taluk were really conservative and would not move unless they were made to move. The methods and implements of agriculture used by the ryots were so very antiquated that they were quite unsuited to modern requirements. The cost of cultivation had increased to a considerable extent and cultivators could rarely find a margin of profit. He therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to establish a demonstration farm at Kottayam and thus instruct the people in ploughing, sowing, planting, manuring, the rotation of crops, the selection of seeds and, above all, in the use of a simple labour-saving machine for draining water from the *punja* lands.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

62. The desirability of establishing grazing grounds and manure depots in the Eraniel taluk.

Mr. P. Krishna Pillai (Member, Eraniel taluk) said that, with the extension of wet cultivation and the increased requirements for the conveniences of the people, such as buildings, roads, canals etc., the lands available for the grazing of cattle were considerably reduced and cattle had now to be fed at an enormous cost. The number of cattle was therefore steadily decreasing and it had gone down so low that hardly one head of cattle was available for one acre of cultivated land on an average. With the decrease in the number of cattle and the destruction of the trees supplying leaf-manure, the people were undergoing much difficulty in finding their supply of manure also. He therefore requested that at least two grazing grounds be reserved in the *pakuthies* of Colachel and Manavalakurichi and one or two manure depots also be opened in suitable places in the same *pakuthies*. For the grazing ground in the Manavalakurichi *pakuthi*, the Member suggested the Periyakulam tank-bed.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

63. The necessity for reserving grazing grounds and for supplying a manure depot in South Travancore.

Mr. D. C. Joseph (Member, Nominated) said that he fully supported the representation on the subject made by the Members who spoke before him. The subject was one which had been discussed at the previous sessions of the Assembly also. But he regretted to observe that nothing tangible and definite had so far been done to mitigate the suffering of the ryots in the matter of grazing grounds. He observed that the money spent in providing grazing grounds was not money sunk in an unprofitable concern. Apart from the help thereby rendered to the ryots, the Government could realize from all such lands a good rate of interest on the money laid out, by auctioning the right of collecting manure from such grounds. He therefore requested the Government to bestow some attention on that important matter. He also requested that a manure depot be opened in South Travancore and the best manure possible supplied to the ryots at cost price. Unless improved kinds of manure were brought within easy reach of the ryots and their advantage understood by the free use of them, it was unlikely that the superior or artificial manure would become popularised, and the ancient and

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